

# Barker Woods Nature Preserve

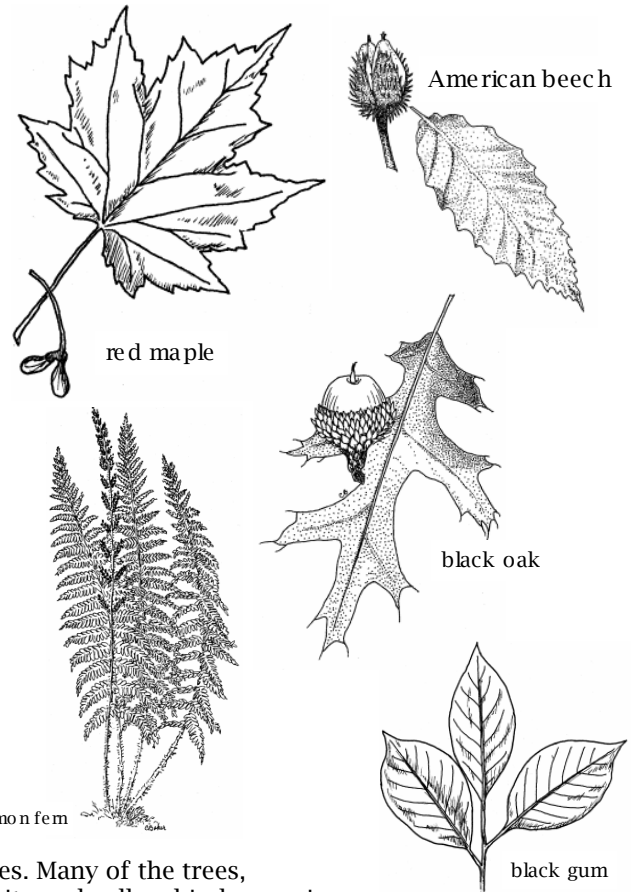
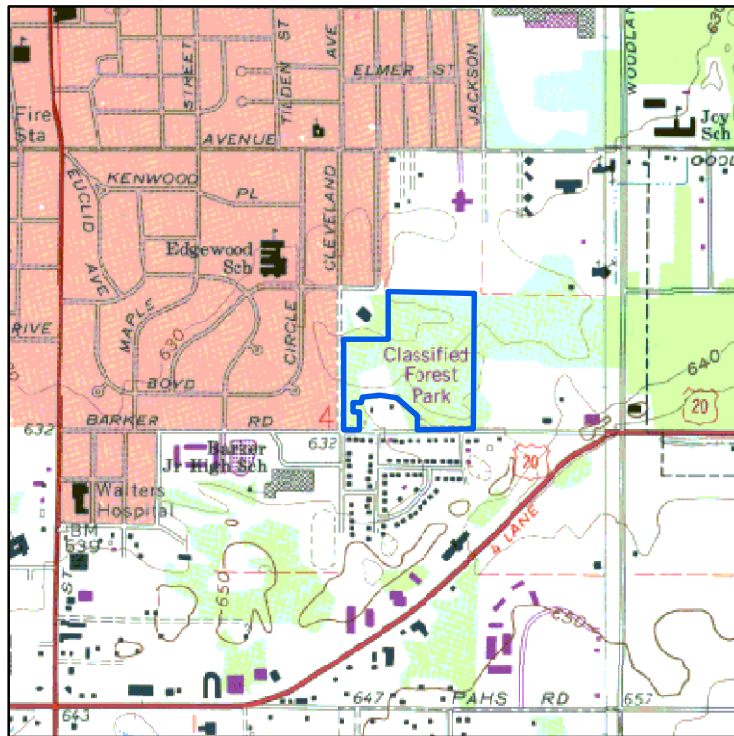
County: LaPorte  
Ownership: Shirley Heinze Land Trust

Size 31 acres



## Location and Access

Parking Area. No Trail. In Michigan City, at the intersection of US 421 (Franklin Street) and US 20, travel north on US 421 0.5 mile to Barker Road. Turn east and go 0.5 mile, cross Cleveland Avenue, and turn north (left) into the preserve.



## Description:

This wooded tract is in a low depression bordered by sandy slopes. Many of the trees, shrubs, and flowers are more commonly found farther north. White and yellow birch grow in peaty deposits, but pin oak and red maple are the dominant trees. Plantations of scotch, jack and red pine have been planted on higher ground near natural stands of white, black and red oaks, black gum, tulip, beech and sugar maple.

Blueberry, huckleberry, chokeberry and witchhazel are typical shrubs of low wet depressions in this area. Herbs of moist ground include cinnamon and royal ferns, Canada mayflower, Indian cucumber-root, Canada cinquefoil, and skunk cabbage. Bracken fern blankets drier soil, with associated species of false Solomon's seal, wild lettuce, asters, and goldenrods.

## Further Information:

Shirley Heinze Land Trust, 444 Barker Rd., Michigan City, IN 46360, (219) 879-4725.  
shef@heinzefund.org. www.heinzefund.org  
Division of Nature Preserves, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W267, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204, 317-232-4052,  
www.in.gov/dnr/naturepr